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SUBJECT: TURKISH RESPONSE TO A/S WAYNE LETTER ON OECD;
ANTI-BRIBERY CONVENTION IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION RATIFIED

REF: 2002 STATE 259167

1. (U) Embassy received an electronic copy of the Turkish response to A/S Anthony Wayne's letter on OECD reform and the Anti-Bribery Convention (reftel). The letter dated January 13 is to be sent by Ambassador Alev Kilic, Deputy Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs. In addition to presenting Turkey's views on priorities for the OECD, the letter announces that Turkey's Parliament has passed enforcement legislation to implement the Anti-Bribery Convention. Embassy will obtain and translate this new legislation.

2. (SBU) Begin text MFA letter:

13 January 2003

H.E. Mr. E. Anthony Wayne
Assistant Secretary
U.S. Department of State

Dear Colleague,

With reference to your letter of 18th December 2002, I would also like to thank you for your valuable and constructive contribution to our discussion concerning the OECD reform in ECSS Meeting on 13-14 November 2002.

We share your concerns about how to make best use of the OECD's limited resources. We also believe that there is a certain need for reassessment of the OECD's priorities and its work programme. Needless to say, this process requires a frank discussion among the members. Only after such a discussion, we can achieve consensus on the new priorities of the Organization in the new millennium. Such a discussion should involve the input from relevant agencies in the capitals as well.

I would like to inform you that we have already initiated a comprehensive study on this issue, involving our relevant agencies. We have already received initial responses and we aim at finalising them in a short time in order to make our contribution to the work of the Council.

At this stage, to summarize our initial comments on the issue, I can list our priorities as follows:

Core issues:
Promotion of economic growth,
Financial stability and structural adjustment,
Contribution to shaping globalisation for the benefit of all through the expansion of trade and investment,
Enhancement of public and private sector governance

Issues of secondary importance:
Provision of employment opportunities,
Improvement of human capital and social cohesion,
Promotion of sustainable environment.

Of course, we will present our more detailed opinions on identification of the sub items of these objectives in due course.

Dear Colleague,

Regarding the Anti-Bribery Convention, it is my great pleasure to inform you that the enforcement law of this Convention was adopted by the Turkish Parliament on 2 January 2003 and entered into force on 11 January 2003.

For us, this issue remains to be important and we are ready to support the follow-up activities for successful implementation of this Convention.

It is also my sincere hope to achieve some concrete results on these two issues, namely OECD reform and implementation of Anti-Bribery Convention. For our part, we will do our best to make our contribution to the deliberations of next ECSS meeting. I am always ready to provide any assistance that you may need during the preparations.

Yours sincerely,

Alev Kilic, Ambassador
Deputy Under-Secretary

End Text MFA letter.
Pearson